Colchester Public Schools

~~0050~~ 9271B

BOE 1st Reading 2/8/22

BYLAWS
~~Mission-Goals-Objectives~~

CODE OF ETHICS

This Code of Ethics is based upon "Standards of Leadership for Members of Boards of Education" recommended by the CABE Board of Directors in 1977:

It is the policy of the Colchester Board of Education that the Board members will:

1. ~~I will~~ be ~~a~~ staunch advocate**s** of high-quality, free public education for all Connecticut children~~. In fulfilling my responsibilities, I~~ **and** will think of "children first."

2. ~~I will~~, as ~~an~~ agent**s** of the state, uphold and enforce all laws, rules, regulations, and court orders pertaining to public schools~~. I~~ and will strive to bring any needed change only through legal and ethical procedures.

3. ~~I will~~ strive to help create public schools which meet the individual educational needs of all children regardless of their ability, race, creed, sex, or social standing.

4. ~~I will~~ work unremittingly to help ~~my~~ **the** community understand the importance of proper support for public education, whether it be in providing adequate finance, optimum facilities, staffing and resources, or better educational programs for children.

5. ~~I will~~ join with ~~my Board,~~ staff, community, and students in becoming fully informed about the nature, value, and direction of contemporary education in our society.~~I will support needed change in our schools.~~

   ~~I will strive to ensure that the community is fully and accurately informed about our schools, and will try to interpret community aspirations to the school staff.~~

   ~~I will recognize that my responsibility is not to "run the schools" through administration, but together with my fellow Board members, to see that they are well run through effective policies~~. *Conduct*

6. ~~I will~~ attempt to confine ~~my~~ Board action to policy-making, planning and appraisal, and will help to frame policies and plans only after ~~my~~ **the** Board has consulted those who will be affected by its actions.

7. ~~I will~~ arrive at conclusions only after discussing all aspects of the issue at hand with ~~my~~ fellow Board members in meeting. ~~I~~will respect the opinions of others, and abide by the principle of majority-rule.

   ~~I will recognize that authority rests only with the whole Board assembled in public meeting, and will make no personal promises or take any private action which may compromise the Board.~~ *Conduct*

8. ~~I will~~ acknowledge that the Board represents the entire school community, and will refuse to surrender ~~my~~ independent judgment to special interests or partisan political groups. ~~I will never use my position on the Board for personal gain~~. *Other policy*

9. ~~I will~~ hold confidential all matters pertaining to schools, which, if disclosed, might needlessly injure individuals or the schools.

10. ~~I will~~ insist that all school business transactions be open and ethical.

    ~~I will strive to appoint the best professional leader available when a vacancy exists in the chief administrative position.~~

    ~~I will strive to appoint the best trained technical and professional personnel available, upon recommendation by the appropriate administrative officer.~~

11. ~~I will~~ support and protect school personnel in the proper performance of their duties. ~~I~~ will strive to ensure that all personnel have not only the requisite responsibilities, but the necessary authority to perform effectively.

    ~~I will refer all complaints through the proper "chain of command" within the system, and will act on such complaints at public meetings only when administrative solutions fail.~~ *Conduct*

ADOPTED: November 22, 1999
REVISED: November 13, 2018
REVISED: March 8, 2022

COLCHESTER PUBLIC SCHOOLS
Colchester, Connecticut